

chapter
6

Your *Internal*
Career Design

Investigating Your Career

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CHAPTER 6

Your *Internal Career Design*

Goals

- * Explain why you need to make a career decision now.
- * Describe the decision-making process.
- * Identify the benefits of making a good career decision.
- * Examine possible career decisions.
- * Choose your *Internal Career Design*.
- * Create a plan to fulfill your career decision.
- * Monitor the progress and success of the decision.

Understand That You Need to Decide Now

- In your classes and activities, you are mastering skill sets that give you flexibility in pursuing various careers.
- Now you can begin developing the specialized skills needed for a specific career.
- The secret to choosing a satisfying career is to make your choice based on your talents, passions, and personal goals.

The Decision-Making Process

1. Understand that you must make a decision.
2. Identify the benefits of making a good decision.
3. Consider all possible decisions.
4. Make a decision.
5. Create a plan to carry out your decision.
6. Monitor the success of your decision.

Identify the Benefits of a Good Career Decision

- You will have a sense of accomplishment
- You will live a more satisfied life.
- You will see a career as a way to earn money *and* as an important, positive part of your life.

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Identify the Benefits of a Good Career Decision

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Use your *P*A*T*H to Success* to find a fulfilling career:

- **Passion** is what you feel when something fascinates you. What made you happy as a child? What do you love to do now?
- **Attitude** is an emotion; for example, a positive attitude will make you feel as though you can accomplish anything.
- **Talents** are those abilities that allow you to do something well.
- **Heart** refers to what you feel is important about a career.

Consider All Possible Career Decisions

- The starting point for your decision
 - **Self-understanding**, a true knowledge about yourself
 - Assessment results
- Career clusters
 - Career cluster—a group of careers in one broad area
 - Many different types of careers are included within a cluster.
 - Careers in a cluster have some common interest and skill requirements.
 - Careers in a cluster vary in the amount of education and training needed, the work setting, and other factors.

Make a Decision to Create Your *Internal Career Design*

- Decide which career cluster is the best match for you.
- Explore various careers within the cluster you chose.
- Select the career that best suits your unique qualities.

Create a Plan

- The next step
- Evaluate your career decision
- Set goals

The Next Step

- Research careers that interest you.
- Narrow your choice of careers within your career cluster.
- Find the future trends predicted for the career.
- Investigate earnings and possibilities for advancement.
- Look into the education and training needed for entry-level and higher-level positions.
- Start an inventory of your skill sets.

Evaluate Your Career Decision

- Use the results of your research to help you evaluate your career decision.
- Ask yourself questions that will help you decide if the career cluster you chose is a good match for you. (See page 100 of your text.)
- Do you have more than one negative answer? If so, you may need to investigate a different career choice.

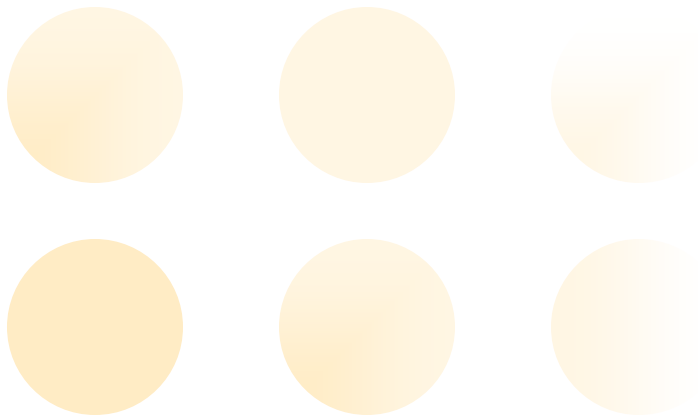
Set Goals

- List the goals you have already identified.
- Focus on what you need to do to achieve your *Internal Career Design* to identify other goals.

Monitor the Success of Your Decision

The career you choose now is probably the first of eight to ten careers you will have during your lifetime.

- Your Career Portfolio Builder
- Check your progress



Your Career Portfolio Builder

- Your Career Portfolio Builder stores the evidence of your achievements.
- Use your Career Portfolio Builder whenever you need to explain your talents to others.
- Use your Career Portfolio Builder to help you plan your career.

Check Your Progress

- **Monitor**, or keep track of, the success of your decision.
 - Does my career choice match my passions?
 - Do I feel positive about my career choice?
 - Are my goals part of my plan?
 - Am I meeting my time lines?
 - Does my career decision still match my *P*A*T*H to Success*?
- Develop **career maturity**, using the path you created to make an informed career decision.
- Experience **career satisfaction**, the pleasure that comes from working in a career that allows you to use your passions.

Summary

- I can explain why I need to make a career decision now.
- I can describe the decision-making process.
- I can identify the benefits of making a good career decision.
- I can examine possible career decisions.
- I can choose my *Internal Career Design*.
- I can create a plan to carry out my career decision.
- I will monitor the success of my career decision.